

Agriculture



Working together to conserve our natural resources!



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
Extension



Farm Service Agency

Tomorrow



DECEMBER 2014

Published by MONTGOMERY AND WARREN COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Upcoming Events:

- 1/10/15 Burn Workshop @ Warren Co. Ext. Center 9am-4pm
- 1/29/15 Soils & Crops Conference @ Montg. High School

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Drainage Water Management Workshop Held December 9, 2014

By Jason Bolte
Montgomery SWCD Technician

On December 9, Montgomery and Warren County SWCD's, in conjunction with University of Missouri Extension and NRCS, hosted a Drainage Water Management (DWM) workshop at the Hermann VFW Hall. The guest speaker was Dr. Kelly Nelson, with the University of Missouri Extension. Kelly is the lead researcher on the MU Research Farm near Novelty, MO. His plots exclusively focus on drainage water management and using the same drainage tiles for sub-surface irrigation of row crops. He has been doing research at the Novelty site for 14 years and provided yield data to show the benefits of DWM on his plots. He also answered any questions from producers in attendance.

NRCS also had speakers present to explain the process that landowners would need to follow to receive Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) or State Cost share funds for DWM. The first step would be to coordinate with a NRCS soil scientist to have a wetland determination completed. This determination is to verify that no wetlands are going to be negatively impacted by the practice. If no wetlands are negatively affected, the landowner will need to contact a DWM Technical Service Provider (TSP). The TSP is not affiliated with NRCS, and will evaluate your field and develop a DWM plan. When the plan is completed and everything planned meets NRCS specifications, the practice is eligible for cost-share funding through the State Cost Share Program or EQIP as funding permits.

To be eligible for EQIP funding the drainage tile must already be in place. This funding is a per acre payment on the water control structure, based on your DWM plan that the TSP has provided. The Missouri State Cost Share Program also offers funding for DWM. Cost share funds can help pay for drainage tile and control structures, based on the plan provided by the TSP. It is also possible to receive State Cost Share funds for the drain tile and EQIP funds for the control structure. If you are interested in Drainage Water Management, contact your local NRCS/ SWCD field office for more details.

Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District

635 W. Booneslick
Warrenton, MO 63383
Phone 636-456-3434
Ext. 3



Montgomery County Soil & Water Conservation District

1013 S. Sturgeon
Montgomery City, MO 63361
Phone 573-564-3715
Ext. 3

Right—Kelly Nelson was the main speaker at the workshop held in Hermann at the VFW Hall.
(See Page 5 for more photos)



Upcoming Supervisor Election for Montgomery County SWCD

Polly Sachs **District Clerk**

The Montgomery County Soil and Water Conservation District is announcing the expiration of terms for current supervisors Harry Cope and Jim Kleinsorge. Harry is seeking re-election and Jim has decided not to run for another term. An election will be held March 18, 2015 at the district's open house for these positions.

The county is divided into four territories with one representative for the county board from each territory, plus a single representative from the University of Missouri Extension Center who serves as board secretary. The primary duty of a board supervisor is to manage the operation of the Soil and Water Conservation District. These duties include administering district funds received from the Parks and Soils Tax, conducting informational meetings and tours, sponsoring educational programs for youth, and maintaining a program of equipment rentals for local landowners.

Territory 2 Includes Upper Loutre and Montgomery Townships currently held by Jim Kleinsorge.

Territory 4 Includes Prairie and North ½ of Bear Creek Townships held by Harry Cope.

A nominating committee consisting of producers from each territory held a meeting 12/8/14 and selected two candidates from each Territory. In Territory 2, Luke Stevens and Jason Todd were asked to be candidates and both accepted. In Territory 4, Harry Cope and Stacy Begeman were both asked to run as candidates and both of them accepted.

The election will be held March 18, 2015 during the district's open house. If you were not nominated by the committee and would like to become a candidate for office you must meet the following qualifications:

- 1) being a land representative;
- 2) reside in, or own a farm in the territory from which the vacancy is occurring;
- 3) be a cooperator of the district, defined as, "a person who is actively engaged in farming and practices conservation activities related to agriculture";
- 4) be a resident tax-paying citizen of the county for at least two years preceding the election date.

You must also secure a petition with signatures of ten (10) land representatives in the above designated territory where an office term is expiring, stating desire for placing this candidate's name on the ballot. The petition must be submitted to the SWCD board not less than ten (10) working days before the date of the election. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call the office.
564-3715 ext. 3.

Partners in Progress - 66th Annual Soil and Water Conservation Districts Training Conference Held

By Debbie Niederer **Warren Co. SWCD Technician**

The 66th Annual Training Conference for the Missouri Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD) and employees was held December 10th - 12th at the newly remodeled Tan-Tar-A Lodge in Osage Beach Missouri. Partners in Progress was the theme drawing Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Supervisors and Employees, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Department of Natural Resources (DNR), DNR Soil and Water Conservation Program (SWCP), Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC), and Missouri University Extension Staff from all over the state to this year's conference. The Missouri Soil and Water Districts Commission, MASWCD, DNR's SWCP, the MASWCD Employees Association partnered to coordinate the conference.

Kenny Lovelace, MASWCD President, welcomed the group at the opening ceremony which was followed by a live auction. This year the conference focused on sending a strong message that the Missouri Conservation program funded by the 1/10 of a percent Parks and Soils sales tax is supported by all the conservation partners in Missouri. They are all very passionate about conserving our state's soil and maintaining water quality.

The conference is a yearly event which brings supervisors and employees together to focus on training needs and to recognize SWCD staff and board members for their outstanding efforts. The State Envi-

Poster Contest—2015



DID YOU KNOW??

- Worldwide, approximately 1,000 plants grown for food, beverages, fibers, spices, and medicines need to be pollinated by animals in order to produce the goods on which we depend
- In the United States, pollination by honeybees and other insects produces \$40 billion worth of products annually!

Source: Pollinator Partnership www.pollinator.org

National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) www.nacdnet.org stewardship@nacdn.org

Montgomery SWCD has Summer Internship Available!!!

The Montgomery Soil & Water Conservation District will be offering a summer internship to a college student.

Regardless of your major, *you must be enrolled and have completed at least one year of college.*

There is no application; however, if you are interested,

submit your resume to the
Montgomery County Soil & Water Conservation
District

no later than February 11, 2015.

For more information call 573-564-3715, x3.

rothon Winners, State Grassland Contest, and FFA Speech Contest winners were also recognized.

This year's workshop topics ranged from Supervisor/Employee Orientation, Farm Bill 2014, Utilizing MDC Staff and Programs, Technical Tools, Plan for the Future, Farm Energy Audits, Liability Insurance, Personnel Laws, Need Assistance on Calibrating Your Grass Seed Drill, Cooperator Payments – Getting it Right, Properly Managing Cover Crops, Missouri DNR Strategies, Missouri State Parks.

Conference attendees also visited with vendors from all across the state Monday and Tuesday while enjoying a 30th Anniversary Tax reception, silent auction and raffles. A conservation partner panel bought together representatives from the different partners past and present to recall prior to and the past 30 years of the tax. The 1/10 of a percent Soils and Parks tax will be up for renewal in 2016.

Many ideas and much information was exchanged that will hopefully continue to aid the great work of the Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Annual Soils & Crops Conference

By Bob Ridgley
Montgomery SWCD Technician

Mark your calendars to attend the **88th Annual Montgomery County Soils & Crops Conference** on **January 29, 2015**

It will start at 5:30pm and end around 8:30pm at the Montgomery County R-II High School.

There will be four rooms with rotating workshops, covering Ag Economics, Row Crops, Livestock, and Water Quality. A meal sponsored by local Agri-businesses will also be provided. There is no cost for this conference and everyone is welcome. Check your local newspaper for more information.

If you would like to attend please call (573-564-3733) or visit the Montgomery County Extension

FSA News...



Farm Service
Agency

By Priscilla Eggering, CED for Montgomery & Warren FSA

FSA Upcoming Deadlines

With the new Farm Bill we have several important deadlines coming up. The first will be February 27, 2015 for the owner on the farm to sign the base and yield selection. The second deadline is March 31, 2015 and that will be to decide which program you will be enrolled in thru the 2018 crop year. The producers sharing in the crop will sign this second form. In order to have the correct paperwork printed please make sure that we are aware of any operator or ownership changes that need to be made. If an operator on the farm needs to be changed, the owner will need to call to make that change.

CONSERVATION COMPLIANCE

Conservation Compliance will remain a big part of your operation as it is now tied to Crop Insurance payment eligibility. If you plan to crop land that has not received a HEL/WC determination or push out any brush you will need to have a determination completed prior to doing so. If in doubt contact the office to decide if paperwork needs to be completed.

MARKETING ASSISTANCE LOANS

Grain loans are a good way to obtain fall operating money while waiting to market your crops. As producers are taking advantage of this benefit we encourage that you continue to monitor the grain and keep it good condition.

In order to serve you better we encourage you to make an appointment at the Montgomery County Office, phone 573-564-2262 ext. #2, or at the Warren County office (by appointment only on the first and third Wednesday).

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Prescribed Burn Workshop



January 10, 2015
9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Warren County Extension Center
107 W Walton St, Warrenton,
MO 63383

Dress for Outdoor Portion

- Protective eye wear
- Leather gloves
- Leather boots
- Handkerchief
- Warm clothing (preferably made of natural fibers)

This workshop is free-of-charge to landowners interested in learning how to properly and safely utilize prescribed fire to manage grasslands, prairies, woodlands, glades and other natural communities on their land.

WORKSHOP AGENDA

- 9:00 am - 12:00 pm — Classroom portion
- 12:00 pm to 12:30 pm — Lunch and drink provided
- 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm — Participate in demo burn or field exercises if weather does not permit prescribed burning



PLEASE RSVP BY JAN. 7

Lori Novak / 636-583-2303, ext. 101

Drainage Water Management Workshop (continued from page 1)

Right—Rich Hoormann from the University Ext. was also a speaker at the workshop.



Left—Andrea King from NRCS spoke about soil health and what NRCS programs are available.

Right—Speaker Kelly Nelson used several tools to demonstrate the benefits of drainage water management.



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To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Tall Fescue Control in CSP and EQIP Wildlife Plantings

By Ryan Diener, Quail Forever Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist

Eradicating a monoculture stand of cool-season grasses—A spring spraying can be completed as either the initial application or as follow-up to a fall application of herbicide. Either way, the use of a glyphosate herbicide at 1-2 quarts per acre will do the trick. You will want to add a non-ionic surfactant and 17lbs of ammonium sulfate per 100 gallons of water to help the chemical absorb better into the plants. This spraying should take place when 3-4 inches of new growth has occurred (usually mid-March) after a fall spraying application. This can even be done if the acres were already seeded over the winter with native grasses and forbs. You will likely see some annual weed response in the summer after this initial burn down and will be providing good wildlife habitat even if a seeding hasn't been done.

Controlling cool-season grasses in a diverse native warm-season grass and forb planting—The presence of both native grasses and forbs in the stand limits the spraying window in this type of application. Again, you will want to use the same mix as above, and spray the stand in the early spring when there is around 3 inches of new growth on the non-native cool-season grasses. This will be early enough to avoid any native plant activity. In most cases there is no need to mow before this application since the target grasses will likely be growing in the more open areas of these stands where the chemical will get to them. Mowing will just eliminate all the nesting cover in the field and is unnecessary.

Controlling cool-season grasses in Pollinator Habitat—When spraying pollinator habitat that has been planted to 100% forbs and is to be maintained relatively grass free, the use of a different chemical is the easiest answer. A grass selective herbicide should be used to kill the non-native cool-season grasses. Poast and Select are the two common grass selective chemicals that would work well in this situation. Whichever one you choose should be mixed at label rates for killing cool-season grasses. These chemicals will also set back native-warm season grasses if a few are present, but should not kill most of them. This spraying should occur after 4-6 inches of new grass growth in the spring and will be a later application than the methods listed above, usually happening in April or possibly even May. Again there is no need to mow existing cover before this application, standing dead forb stems and the little amount of new forb growth will not hinder chemical contact with the target grasses. Areas with native grasses or pollinators can also be sprayed in the fall after a killing frost with a non-selective herbicide (glyphosate). Waiting until after a killing frost will ensure that the only actively growing plants are non-native cool-season grasses like tall fescue and smooth brome. These fall applications usually occur in November through early December on warm days with temps above 50 degrees. Fall spraying offers better control than early spring applications.

All of these applications could also occur after a late winter/early spring burn February or March to encourage the existing cool-season grasses to grow. This would make applications easier and is a great way to double up on management practices to further improve the habitat. If you have any Pollinator or native warm season grass plantings through CSP or EQIP, I would be happy to come out and help you evaluate your stand to see if we need to do some maintenance on those areas this spring. Just contact the USDA office or me directly, to set up an appointment or 636-399-8733.

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Establishing a Clover Food Plot

**By Jamie Barton, MDC
Private Land Conservationist**

My job is to give habitat recommendations to landowners in Callaway and Montgomery Counties. I make recommendations on how to improve forested areas, convert fescue to native grass, properly conduct a prescribed fire and establish and maintain food plots.

Even though maintaining food plots is the last practice I mentioned, it's normally the first thing land managers want to discuss with me. "What kind of food plot do you recommend?" is the most common question I receive from landowners. I generally respond by saying, "I'd stick with something that is easy for you to establish and maintain." Shortly after that, I talk about some of the food plot varieties that fit the "easy to establish and maintain" criteria.

White-tail deer are probably the most targeted species, when it comes to why landowners want to establish a food plot. The good thing about food plots is that all wildlife generally benefit from the effort, in one way or another.

Establishing a clover food plot is one of the easiest ways to attract wildlife to your property. It also has the biggest impact, when compared to amount of effort put forth. There are several varieties of clover that a landowner can choose from. Red and white (ladino) clovers are the most popular. I prefer ladino, but all clover varieties are beneficial to wildlife.

Clover plots can be established in September or frost-seeded February – March. Seed can be drilled with a no-till seed drill or broadcasted. A smooth, firm seedbed to ensure germination and proper seed placement is preferred. Seed should not be covered by more than ¼ inch of soil, therefore any tillage that is needed should be completed prior to seeding. Cultipacking the plot, after seeding in the fall, will help ensure good seed to soil contact. It's not necessary to cultipack the plot after a frost-seeding. Broadcasting clover seed over a wheat field or lightly vegetated field in late winter is the most common, and perhaps, the easiest.

Seeding rates vary, depending on the variety. Red clover should be broadcasted at a rate of 10 pounds to the acre. Ladino clover should be broadcasted at a rate of 2 – 4 pounds to the acre. To ensure the greatest

germination, I recommend inoculating the seed with the recommended inoculant, prior to broadcasting, or purchasing pre-inoculated seed. Your local farm service store should have red or ladino clover, and they should be able to provide you with the inoculant that is needed.

To ensure the greatest success with establishing a clover plot, I recommend taking soil samples and having samples analyzed by a professional. The results of the soil analysis will tell you how much lime and fertilizer would be needed to be successful. Generally, local farm service stores can help you with this as well.

Maintaining a weed-free plot is also important. Sometimes weeds and grasses will emerge and out-compete the clover. At this point in time, it would be important to spray the plot with grass and broadleaf herbicides that will not hurt the clover. Mowing can help manicure the plot in late summer or early fall, but it will not kill the weeds. At some point in time you will most likely have to spray the plot to keep the weeds from taking over.

Protein levels in red or ladino clover range from 20 -30 percent. This is very important for antler development and lactating does in the spring and summer. Along with being very nutritious, clover is attractive to deer throughout the year.

Clover is also important to other wildlife. In the summer, clover plots harbor a lot of insects. Insects are high in protein, making clover plots ideal brooding areas for turkeys and quail.

If maintained correctly, a stand of clover can last for several years. Whatever variety you choose, adding clover to your food plot rotation will go a long way to attracting wildlife to your property.

Private Pesticide Applicator Training

University of Missouri Extension (UME) is holding a number of private pesticide applicators training sessions. The training is 7pm-9pm and is required for those producing agricultural commodities and wanting to purchase and apply restricted use pesticides on land they own, rent, or crop-share. Those needing recertification training to renew their license for another 5 years may also attend. Growers wanting to purchase and apply restricted use pesticides must have a certified private pesticide applicators license issued by the MO Dept of Ag. Successful completion of UME private applicator training is the requirement for receiving the license. You must be at least 18 years of age and directly involved in the production of agricultural commodities to apply for a certified private applicator license. There is no charge for the training, but EPA requires that each farm have a copy of their core Pesticide Applicator Manual, which has a charge of \$1. For more information contact Rich Hoormann, UME Agronomy Specialist at 573-564-3373. Please be sure to register at the number listed for the extension office most convenient for you.

Warren County—Tuesday, Jan. 6 & Monday, Feb. 9, 2015
Call 636-456-3444

Callaway County—Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2015
Call 573-642-0755

Lincoln County—Wednesday, Jan 21 & Thursday Feb. 12, 2015
Call 636-528-4613

Osage County—Tuesday Feb. 3, 2015
Call 573-897-3648, x4

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

1013 S. Sturgeon • Montgomery City, MO 63361

Board of Supervisors

Harry Cope, Chairman • Adam Uthlaut, Vice-Chairman • Rich Hoormann, Secretary
Jim Kleinsorge, Treasurer • Alan Bufka, Member

District Personnel

Robert Ridgley, District Technician, Ann Whitehead, District Technician,
Jason Bolte, District Technician
.....

WARREN COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

635 W. Booneslick • Warrenton, MO 63383

Board of Supervisors

Ralph Glosemeyer, Chairman • Steve Tomschin, Vice-Chairman
Harold Gloe, Treasurer • Rich Hoormann, Secretary • Lynn Bade, Member

District Personnel

Debbie Niederer, District Technician
Polly Sachs, District Manager

Assisted by NRCS Personnel

Tammy Teeter, District Conservationist
Sarah Szachnieski, Resource Conservationist
David Korman, Soil Conservationist
Denise Tillman-Office Automation Clerk
Katie Owens & Karen Sinclair, WAE's
Ryan Diener, QF Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist

Assisted by Missouri Department of Conservation

Jamie Barton & Lia Heppermann-MDC Private Land Conservationists
Jeff Bakameyer, Tony Peper, Justin Janes, Lafe Schweissguth,
and Angela Belden-MDC Forestry
Scott Voney & Sarah Peper-MDC Fisheries Biologists
Matt Spurgeon & Jim Kuenzle-MDC Wildlife Conservationists

Cover Crop Economics Questionnaire

Missouri NRCS State Economist Lauren Cartwright is asking districts to distribute a [questionnaire](#) to producers interested in cover crops. The [Cover Crops Economic Decision Support Tool](#) was presented at a workshop at the December MASWCD training conference. Producers will return answers directly to NRCS. This information will be used to develop a series of 1-page fact sheets about the economics of cover crops for planners. A direct link to the questionnaire is available at <http://swcd.mo.gov/internal/documents/nrcs-covercrop-econ-questionnaire-fillable.pdf>.

Warren County Equipment Rental Rates

(Montgomery County landowners are charged the same as in-county)

Available through the Warren SWCD Office 636-456-3434, x3

7 ft. Great Plains No-Till Drill with Native Grass Box \$8 acre
\$25.00 minimum charge

Vermeer Mulcher.. \$50 per day/1st hr free • \$25/each additional hour

Available through Matt Berry, near Marthasville, 636-932-4035

10' John Deere No-Till Drill \$8 acre
\$25.00 minimum charge

**Available through Ralph Glosemeyer, in Concord Hill,
636-932-4897**

7' Great Plains No-Till Drill with Native Grass Box..... \$8 acre
\$25.00 minimum charge

Warm Season Grass Burn Equipment\$20 per day

Additional rental rates charged for out-of-county landowners

Montgomery County Equipment Rental Rates

(Warren County landowners are charged the same as in-county)

Available through the Montgomery SWCD Office

573-564-3715, x3

7 ft. Great Plains No-Till Drill with Native Grass Box \$7 acre
\$25.00 minimum charge

10 ft. Great Plains No-Till Drill with Native Grass Box..... \$8 acre
\$25.00 minimum charge

Vermeer Mulcher..... \$50/1st hour use • \$25/each additional hour

Warm Season Grass Burn Equipment\$10 per day

wBlowers\$20 per day

Tree Planter\$50/day • Maximum charge of \$100

Tree Root Pruner..... \$25/day

Truax "Seed Slinger" - Hand Grass Seeder \$10/day

Truax Electric ATV Mounted Seeder \$10/day

10' ATV Mounted Sprayer..... \$10/day

18" Hay Probes (with \$50 deposit) FREE

Available through Rhineland MFA 573-236-4315

10 ft. Great Plains No-Till Drill with Native Grass Box..... \$8 acre
\$25.00 minimum charge